Sri Lankan Currency

The Sri Lankan rupee is the official currency of Sri Lanka.

January 2009 Exchange Rate:
1 Sri Lankan Rupee (LKR) = 0.0088 USD
1 USD = 113.95 LKR

Sri Lankan currency is unique because it is the only currency on which the back (reverse) side of banknotes is printed vertically.

10 Rupees

The front of the ten rupees banknote has a chinthe (a lion-like creature which is often seen in pairs at the entrances of pagodas and temples to protect them). The reverse features pictures of a stork, the Presidential Secretariat building in Colombo, and flowers.

20 Rupees

The twenty rupee note shows a garuda, an intelligent Buddhist mythical bird-like creature which destroys nāgas, intelligent snake-like creatures on the obverse. The back of the note depicts fishermen, fish, and sea shells.
50 Rupees

The obverse of the fifty rupees note shows a guard stone from the entrance steps of a stupă (a Buddhist monument) in Anuradhapura, and a native male dancer wearing the local headdress. The reverse features pictures of butterflies, a stupă in Anuradhapura, and an ornamental sword hilt.

100 Rupees

The 100 rupees note features a bell and an urn on the front, and shows flowers, parrots, the Sigiriya (an ancient rock fortress), and people picking tea leaves on the reverse.
500 Rupees

The front of the 500 rupees note shows a Kandy (*Maha Nuvara*) dancer, Kandy drummers, and a picture of a dragon. The back depicts a bird with a fish in its beak, a *stupa* in Anuradhapura, and flowers.